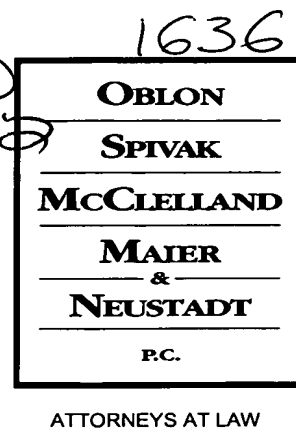




Docket No.: 210707US20

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231



RE: Application Serial No.: 09/905,114
Applicants: Huanmin ZHANG, et al.
Filing Date: July 16, 2001
For: ISOLATED POLYNUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCE
ENCODING A FERTILITY ASSOCIATED
ANTIGEN
Group Art Unit: 1636
Examiner: NGUYEN

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Restriction and Election of Species Requirement (4 pp.)
International Preliminary Examination Report (5 pp.)

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870



22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

Vincent K. Shier, Ph.D.
Registration No. 50,552

RECEIVED

OCT 11 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900



RECEIVED

OCT 11 2002

DOCKET NO.: 210707US20

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Huanmin ZHANG, et al.

:

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1636

SERIAL NO.: 09/905,114

:

FILED: JULY 16, 2001

:

: EXAMINER: NGUYEN

FOR: ISOLATED POLYNUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES ENCODING A FERTILITY
ASSOCIATED ANTIGEN

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated September 9, 2002, Applicants elect, with
traverse, Group I, Claims 1-7 and 9-16. Applicants note that an election of Species is not
required with the election of Group I.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

- Group I: Claims 1-7 and 9-16, drawn to an isolated polynucleotide sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 or an isolated polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the same polynucleotide sequence, a vector, a host cell comprising the same isolated polynucleotide sequence, and a method for producing a fertility associated antigen by introducing an isolated polynucleotide encoding fertility associated antigen into a host cell;
- Group II: Claims 8 and 17-54, drawn to an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and methods of increasing the stability of the plasma membrane plus acrosome of a sperm cell and/or other portions of a sperm cell, of increasing fertility of sperm from a mammal or an avian, or of increasing the fertility of a male mammal